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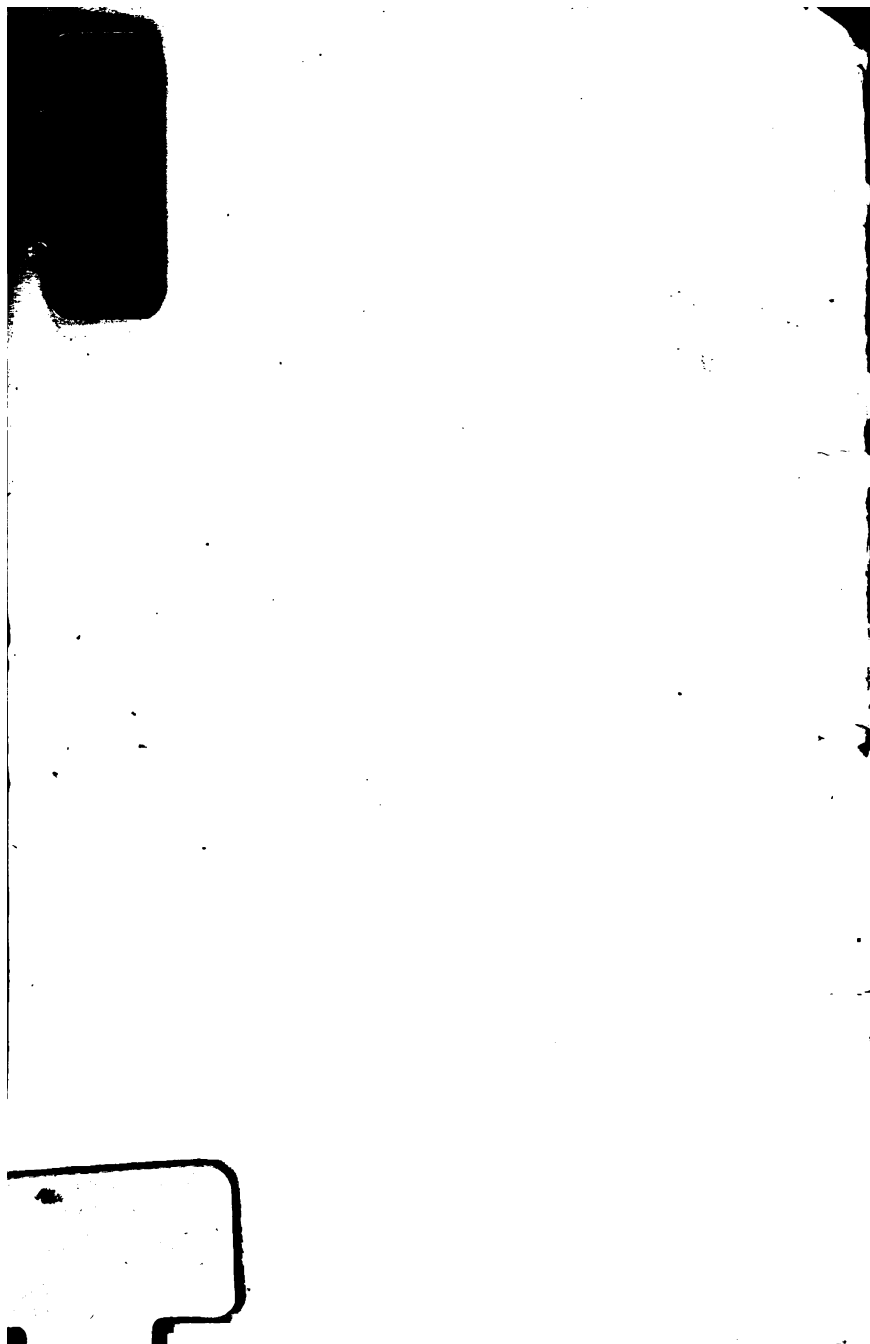
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE
NATIONAL GRANGE
OF THE
Patrons of Husbandry.

NEW-YORK:
S. W. GREEN, PRINTER, 16 AND 18 JACOB STREET.
—
1874.

OFFICERS OF NATIONAL GRANGE

Elected at Sixth Annual Session.

Master—DUDLEY W. ADAMS, Waukon, Iowa.

Overseer—THOMAS TAYLOR, Columbia, South-Carolina.

Lecturer—T. A. THOMPSON, Plainview, Wabasha Co., Minnesota.

Steward—A. J. VAUGHAN, Early Grove, Marshall Co., Mississippi.

Assistant Steward—G. W. THOMPSON, New-Brunswick, N. J.

Chaplain—REV. A. B. GROSH, Washington, D. C.

Treasurer—F. M. McDOWELL, Wayne, N. Y.

Secretary—O. H. KELLEY, Washington, D. C.

Gate-Keeper—O. DINWIDDIE, Orchard Grove, Lake Co., Indiana.

Ceres—MRS. D. W. ADAMS, Waukon, Iowa.

Pomona—MRS. THOMAS TAYLOR, Columbia, South-Carolina.

Flora—MRS. JOSEPH T. MOORE, Sandy Springs, Md.

Lady Assistant Steward—Miss C. A. HALL, Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS, Washington, D. C.

D. WYATT AIKEN, Cokesbury, Abbeville Co., South-Carolina.

E. R. SHANKLAND, Dubuque, Iowa.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

FIRST DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 4, 1874.

GRANGE opened in due form in the fourth degree at 11 A.M. Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

Committee on Credentials was appointed, consisting of Brothers Brown, Michigan ; Cochrane, Wisconsin ; and Vaughan, Mississippi ; to which Secretary Kelley was added.

The Committee reported the following-named persons as present and entitled to seats.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

William Saunders, District of Columbia ; William Muir, St. Louis county ; John Trimble, Jr., District of Columbia ; William Duane Wilson, Iowa ; O. H. Kelley and wife, District of Columbia ; John Wier and wife, Indiana ; J. R. Thompson, District of Columbia ; F. M. Dumgould, Kansas ; D. W. Adams and wife, Iowa ; F. M. McDowell, New-York ; E. R. Shankland, Iowa ; J. W. A. Wright, California ; O. Dinwiddie and wife, Indiana ; Joseph T. Moore and wife, Maryland ; A. J. Vaughan and wife, Mississippi ; D. Wyatt Aiken, South-Carolina ; T. A. Thompson and wife, Minnesota ; A. Golder, Illinois ; E. P. Colton and wife, Vermont ; T. R. Allen, Missouri ; Jos. Seymour, New-York ; George W. Thompson, New-Jersey ; Thomas Taylor and wife, South-Car-

lina ; W. B. Porter and wife, Nebraska ; John Cochrane, Wisconsin ; A. B. Grosh, chaplain, District of Columbia ; D. S. Curtis, District of Columbia ; Miss C. A. Hall, District of Columbia ; Harvey D. Scott and wife, Indiana ; W. H. Chambers, Alabama ; John T. Jones, Arkansas ; J. M. Hamilton, California ; B. F. Wardlaw, Florida ; T. J. Smith and wife, Georgia ; Henley James, Indiana ; A. B. Smedley and wife, Iowa ; M. E. Hudson, Kansas ; W. D. Davie, Kentucky ; H. W. L. Lewis, Louisiana ; T. L. Allis, Massachusetts ; S. F. Brown, Michigan ; George I. Parsons and wife, Minnesota ; Dudley T. Chase and wife, New-Hampshire ; Edward Howland and wife, New-Jersey ; George D. Hinckley, New-York ; Columbus Mills and wife, North-Carolina ; S. H. Ellis, Ohio ; Daniel Clark, Oregon ; D. B. Mauger, Pennsylvania ; William Maxwell and wife, Tennessee ; J. W. White, Virginia ; B. M. Kitchen, West-Virginia ; E. B. Crew, Dakota ; Daniel Worthington, Illinois ; T. R. Tenny, Colorado.

Adopted.

On motion of Brother Wardlaw, of Florida, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this grange upon the death of Brother Johnson, Master of the State Grange of Texas. The Worthy Master appointed Bros. Wardlaw, Florida ; Clark, Oregon ; and Hinckley, New-York.

T. R. Allen, Master of the State Grange of Missouri in behalf of that body, welcomed the National Grange as follows :

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Worthy Master and Members of the National Grange : A happy greeting and a hearty welcome to the city. When at our last annual session, with struggling emotions between a sense of propriety and fear of presumption, I arose to put St. Louis in nomination as the place for this annual session, I did so with real trepidation, feeling that we had no claims to your consideration save that of locality ; I then acknowledged I was there to represent my state without a constituency. The only argument I could present in addition to that of central locality was, that I claimed that the moral effect of the success of my motion would greatly aid me in the work of organizing the state.

And when I pledged you, as a result of a favorable consideration of my motion, that we would have *one hundred granges* in the State by the time this session convened, I did it with fear and trembling lest we might fail in its fulfillment. And when, at the unanticipated favorable result of my motion, I arose to thank you for the compliment, I was so overcome with emotion as to break down, as you who were present may remember. We had nominally at that time nineteen granges in the State, really not half that number of live active ones.

And, now, behold! I have exceeding great pleasure to inform you that instead of 100 we have 1500 live, active working granges. I feel sure that you give me credit for having abundantly fulfilled my promise. The organization now exists in nearly every one of the 114 counties of our State, and, I believe, that before this session closes, will exist in every one of them. And it is now spreading and growing faster than ever before.

When I was called upon to attend the last session (really the first) of this body in Washington, I consented to do so against my judgment, inclination, and interest, as I then viewed it, but I have ever since been thanking God that I did so.

The exhibition I there witnessed of fraternal sympathy, Christian spirit, harmonious unity of action, oneness of purpose, entire absence of sectional, political, or other prejudices or jealousies among men, assembled for the first time from all the extreme sections of our country, that had so recently been convulsed and torn by the worst passions of our nature, made an impression on my mind so favorable to our order that it gave me courage and strength to labor and to endure in a manner and to an extent that I feel sure I never could have otherwise done. Since that time I have travelled not less than fifteen thousand miles within the limits of our State, in the interests of this noble cause, and have everywhere witnessed the same result among our people. Everywhere, men of the most antagonistic feelings, prejudices, jealousies, and even hatred have through its influence been brought together, made better acquainted with each other instead of enemies. They now feel and act toward each other, as never before. The social improvement and amenities of life are cultivated as never before. A taste for reading, habits of thought,

investigation, and intellectual culture are promoted to an extent never thought of or dreamed of before.

These, my brethren, are no trifling achievements ; are trophies of our noble order, of which every good man will feel proud, and in which he has a clear right to rejoice.

My brothers and sisters, in the name of at least eighty thousand Patrons in Missouri to-day I bid you welcome ; a hearty welcome to Missouri.

RESPONSE BY BROTHER SAUNDERS.

The address of Brother Allen was responded to by Brother William Saunders, chairman of the executive committee. He returned thanks to Brother Allen in behalf of the order, for his kind words of welcome, and assured him that his efforts to make the meeting pleasant and agreeable were duly and heartily appreciated.

Brother Moore moved the appointment of a committee of five ' On Order of Business."

Carried.

The Master appointed the following Brothers :

On Order of Business—Moore, of Maryland ; Parsons, of Minnesota ; Aiken, of South-Carolina ; Chambers, of Alabama ; and Colton, of Vermont.

Brother Chambers offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to which shall be referred without debate all matters relating to amendments to the constitution. Adopted.

The Worthy Master appointed the following Committee : Chambers, Alabama ; Mauger, Pennsylvania ; Smedley, Iowa ; McDowell, New-York ; and Allen, Missouri.

On motion, it was resolved that the secretary be instructed to prepare a list of those members entitled to vote.

PREPARED LIST.

Joseph T. Moore, Sandly Spring, Md.

Mrs. J. T. Moore, Sandly Spring, Md.

A. J. Vaughan, Memphis, Tenn.

Mrs. A. J. Vaughan, Memphis, Tenn.
 A. Golder, Rock Falls, Ill.
 E. P. Colton, Irasburg, Vt.
 Mrs. A. A. Colton, Irasburg, Vt.
 H. W. L. Lewis, Osyka, Miss.
 T. L. Allis, Conway, Mass.
 S. F. Brown, Schoolcraft, Mich.
 G. J. Parsons, Winona, Minn.
 Mrs. Sophia Parsons, Winona, Minn.
 D. T. Chase, Claremont, N. H.
 Mrs. S. P. Chase, Claremont, N. H.
 E. Howland, Hammonton, N. J.
 Mrs. Mary Howland, Hammonton, N. J.
 George D. Hinckley, Fredonia, N. Y.
 Columbus Mills, Concord, N. C.
 Mrs. C. Mills, Concord, N. C.
 S. H. Ellis, Springboro, Ohio.
 Daniel Clark, Salem, Oregon.
 D. B. Mauger, Douglassville, Pa.
 William Maxwell, Maxville, Tenn.
 Mrs. W. Maxwell, Maxville, Tenn.
 J. W. White, Charlotte, Va.
 B. M. Kitchen, Shanghai, W. Va.
 E. B. Crew, Lodi, Dakota.
 R. O. Tenny, Colorado.
 T. R. Allen, Allenton, Mo.
 Thomas Taylor, Columbia, S. C.
 Mrs. Thomas Taylor.
 W. B. Porter, Plattsmouth, Neb.
 Mrs. W. B. Porter, Plattsmouth, Neb.
 John Cochrane, Waupun, Wis.
 W. H. Chambers, Oswichee, Ala.
 John T. Jones, Helena, Ark.
 J. M. Hamilton, Guenoc, Cal.
 B. F. Wardlaw, Madison, Fla.
 T. J. Smith, Oconee, Ga.
 Mrs. M. Smith, Oconee, Ga.
 Hendley James, Marian, Ind.

A. B. Smedley, Cresco, Iowa.
 Mrs. S. J. Smedley, Cresco, Iowa.
 M. E. Hudson, Mapleton, Kan.
 M. D. Davie, Beverly, Ky.

On motion, the Grange adjourned till 2½ P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grange opened in due form, the Worthy Master in the chair :

The Committee on Order of Business reported as follows :

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1st. Opening the Grange.
- 2d. Reading minutes of the last meeting.
- 3d. Reports of officers.
- 4th. Reports of Executive Committee.
- 5th. Reports of Committees from the Sixth Annual Session.
- 6th. Reports of Standing Committees from the present session.
- 7th. Reports of Special Committees.
- 8th. Call of the Roll by States for presenting business.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the duty of proposing an order of business, respectfully recommend the above, and further recommend, that the daily sessions shall convene at 10 A.M. and 7 P. M.

Further, we recommend the appointment of the following committees:

- 1st. Constitution and By-laws.
- 2nd. Finance.
- 3rd. Good of the Order.
- 4th. Commercial Relations.
- 5th. Coöperation and Transportation.

To whom all resolutions shall be referred without debate

Your committee further recommend, that a two-third vote shall be required to suspend the regular order of business or make any special order.

They further recommend that this body hold its sessions in the sixth degree.

Your Committee also recommend, that nothing be submitted to the press for publication until it shall have been submitted to the Executive Committee for their inspection and approval.

Jos. T. MOORE,	} Committee.
D. WYATT AIKEN,	
E. P. COLTON,	
GEORGE I. PARSONS,	
W. H. CHAMBERS,	

Brother White moved the following amendment to the report.

The working of this grange shall be conducted in the fourth degree until the night session of the 5th inst., at which time the sixth degree shall be conferred, and after which the work of the grange shall be done in the sixth degree.

Adopted.

The report was further amended by adding an auditing committee of three.

The report as amended was adopted, after which, Worthy Master Adams delivered his annual address as follows :

Brothers and Sisters of the National Grange : In conformity to our constitution, we have convened in annual meeting to counsel and act for the good of our order.

The work of the National Grange for the past year has been almost exclusively one of organization. In this direction, its success has been such as to excite the constant wonder of even its own members, while those outside the gates have beheld our growth with undisguised amazement.

At our last annual meeting, there were represented nine State granges, having under their jurisdiction about 1300 subordinate granges. To-day there are State granges in thirty-two States and two territories, all of which are to-day present through their chosen representatives, and claim under their jurisdiction nearly 12,000 subordinate granges.

This result has been in the main achieved through the instrumentality of deputies appointed by the State granges where such had been organized, and by the National Grange in those States

where no State grange existed. To this army of faithful men, who, from ocean to ocean and from the gulf to the great lakes, have done missionary work so effective, we owe a lasting debt of gratitude.

The causes which have led to this great uprising which have rendered the work of organization possible and even easy are few but grave, and mainly of a nature never contemplated by the originators of the order. In its inception it was intended to be chiefly a social and educational institution, something after the nature of a farmers' club, only more comprehensive in its plan, including both sexes, and rendered more attractive by a pleasing ritual and the subtle charm of secrecy.

It was intended to bring together, at frequent and stated periods, the agricultural population, to interchange views, discuss agricultural, literary, and scientific questions, and cultivate the social amenities of civilized life. In short, it was intended to improve the standing of the tillers of the soil, mentally, morally, and socially. As such it has been and is being a most magnificent success. Though some other features, which have been engrafted on the parent stock at a later day, have occupied a more prominent place in the eye of the public than this, yet it can not be denied that none are of equal importance to the permanent welfare of the Order and its members; for, really, moral worth, mental power, and social culture lie at the foundation of all real progress.

There is danger that, in grappling with the gigantic questions of the hour, we may lose sight of the rock on which we builded.

It is of prime importance, in order to maintain the strength of the national organization, that the subordinate granges be kept up to a high standard of efficiency. During the first months of the existence of a grange, the novelty, preparation of regalia, and initiation of new members secures a full and interested attendance. After this, there is often a want of amusing and instructive exercises, the interest flags, the attendance falls off, and the grange seems to lack vitality.

This matter demands the careful consideration of the National Grange. It should be made the duty of some branch to provide a plan of work by which the meetings of the subordinate granges

will be rendered constantly and increasingly attractive. Only thus can the present membership be retained and a regular increase secured. My correspondence reveals a very general feeling among the subordinate granges, that the National Grange should do something of this kind, and in this view I most heartily concur, deeming it one of the most legitimate and important of all the works which demand our attention. This work should be placed in thoroughly competent hands, for the very existence of the Order depends upon vigorous and healthy subordinate granges.

When the first subordinate granges had been organized, one of the first and most proper subjects for discussion was, how to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before. During these discussions, the fact soon became prominent that how to sell crops was fully as knotty a question as how to grow them. It came to the conviction of members, that we received 60 cents for a bushel of wheat, while the man who ate it paid \$1.20 for it. We were selling corn at 20 cents per bushel, while the consumer was paying 80 cents for it. In what we bought, there was the same discrepancy between first cost and what we were obliged to pay. For mowers, sewing-machines, plows, musical instruments, etc., etc., we were paying from 30 to 200 per cent above the original cost. We asked ourselves whether this amazing difference was a necessity, or the result of circumstances over which we had control. The solution of this problem soon became a leading idea in the Order.

Subordinate granges, county councils, and State granges have given this one point more thought and attention than perhaps any other, and I am happy to know that satisfactory progress has been made—millions of dollars saved to the members of the order, and still the outlook is, that we are as yet only on the threshold of this great work. Almost universally we find manufacturers and consumers equally anxious to be relieved of so much as is possible of the loss in transit occasioned by a surplus of middle-men.

Most of those manufacturers of small agricultural implements have been found ready to sell direct to granges at wholesale rates. With the manufacturers of reapers and mowers, the case

has been different, not that they were unwilling to do so from any principle or prejudice, but no one State was strong enough to show them that they could offer a more certain market for their wares than could be obtained through their present system of agencies.

In such cases as these, it is the duty of the National to lend its aid to the State granges, or by itself grapple with the difficulty. The subject of coöperative stores is one in which subordinate granges have manifested much interest, but the want of definite information as to the most approved and successful plan of conducting them has prevented their general establishment. I am of the opinion that the National Grange should prepare a careful and elaborate plan for such stores, using therefor the abundant materials which the experience of the Rochdale and other societies afford. This would be hailed with delight by thousands of Patrons who are now groping in the dark.

Transportation of farm products to market is also an outgrowth of and properly a part of the same question, and a part which has laid firm hold on the consciences of our people. In a country of magnificent distances, the transportation of heavy farm products by wagons to market is of course out of the question. Railroads are a necessity of the times and circumstances. Fully recognizing this, the government has kindly fostered and liberally subsidized them. The people have heavily taxed themselves to aid in their construction, expecting substantial benefits in return. While we readily assent to the proposition that railroads, even as now conducted, add immensely to the development of the country and the convenience of the people, still in our inmost soul we feel deeply wronged at the return made for the kind and liberal spirit we have shown them.

Rates of freight are often exorbitantly high and frequently changed. Often a larger bill is charged for a short distance than a long one, thus discriminating against places; and often higher rates are charged one individual than another, thus discriminating against persons. When we plant a crop, we can only guess what it will cost to send it to market, for we are the slaves of these whom we created.

I need not here repeat what the discussions of the last two

years have developed concerning the rascalities of watered stock, construction companies buying legislators in State and nation, and Credit Mobilier. These have been fully ventilated till they are fully understood.

What shall be the remedy? Here lies the difficulty, for even in our own ranks there is a Babel of opinion. Some advocate new routes East, subsidized by government, either rail or canal; others would have new roads made by private enterprise and trust to competition.

The first of these will require many years before they can afford the relief which we want now; and besides will surely develop into other Credit Mobiliers. The second will only add one more link to the chain which now binds us hand and foot. I see no solution of this question but for Congress to avail itself of its constitutional right to regulate commerce between the States, and for the States themselves to regulate the tariffs within their own boundaries. That this right is vested in the government of the State and nation seems wholly clear. When a railroad is to be built the line of which crosses my private property, and I do not wish to have this property mutilated, I frankly so inform the railroad. Government now steps in and very properly says, "This railroad is for the development of the State, and on the ground that the public good demands its construction, you must sell them your right of way, and we will allow you a reasonable compensation therefor." Now, it seems clear to me that the same government which can take my land for the public good and fix the price therefor, can say to this railroad, "The public good demands that you carry freights and persons at reasonable rates, which you henceforth must do, and we will decide what those rates shall be."

As well as any one, I fully appreciate the difficulties which lie in the way of a tariff fixed by law—I can easily see where it may sometimes work hardship and even actual wrong. But it is amazing, it seems to me preposterous, that disinterested men are not as competent as those interested to fix rates which shall be just to the railroads and the people. To rely on competition for relief will only bring renewed disappointment. Our past history shows that the rapid increase of railroads has only resulted in more gigantic combinations.

It will doubtless be difficult to induce our national Legislature and most of our State Legislatures to pass any such law which will be efficient, for there is no money in it.

The propositions which will be most likely to meet with favor in those august bodies will be the building of new railroads, or digging vast canals, which will allow them the opportunity to spend \$50,000,000 or \$100,000,000, which we will at last have the producer's privilege of paying. When such amounts as that are to be expended, it is easy to advance a class of arguments which usually carry conviction to legislators. Besides those artificial highways, Nature has placed a most magnificent river right through the heart of the agricultural region of our country, reaching from the wheat fields of Minnesota to the sugar plantations of Louisiana, which, with a small expenditure, can be made capable of bearing on its bosom the products of a continent. Even now a single rapid, a sand-bar, and a most heartless tow-boat ring, are all that seriously impede its navigation.

Matters of such importance as these should receive at your hands most patient investigation and careful consideration.

Since our last meeting, our constitution and laws have been subjected to the test of another year's trial. While this experience has in the main proven the wisdom of our predecessors, still your master, whose duty it is to "see that the constitution and by-laws are observed and obeyed," has been made frequently aware that perfection is not yet reached. It may not be out of the way at this time to bring to your notice some of those points which have seemed to your chief executive officer as susceptible of improvement.

Before doing this, I wish to bear cheerful testimony to the value of stability, and the fearful amount of confusion always caused by radical changes in the law or usages of the Order. In no case should any such change be made, unless there seems most important reasons therefor.

Our constitution makes masters and past masters of subordinate granges, and their wives who are matrons, members of the State grange. In many of the States this already constitutes a body too large for any practical purpose. Under this law, the State grange of Iowa, at its annual meeting one year ago, numbered

and had in actual attendance, about 1000 members. It will be apparent to all, that such an assemblage is very expensive and too large for the careful consideration or rapid transaction of business.

This meeting, fully feeling the inconveniences under which it was working, and foreseeing an aggravation of their troubles in the future, as its numbers rapidly increased, cast about for a way out of this dilemma. Fully recognizing the validity and binding force of the constitution of the National Grange, it seemed perfectly competent for the members of the State grange to decide by law how they should exercise the rights vested in them as such members by the National Grange. The result of those deliberations was the enactment of the following law, which was on trial, proved admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was intended, and is generally approved.

"The legislative and all other powers of this State grange shall be vested in certain of its members, to be selected as follows: All members of the State grange resident in each county shall meet on the first Tuesday of December, at such place as they may from time to time designate, and elect one of their members for the county at large, and one additional member for each eight granges, or fraction thereof equal to five; provided that nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent masters and past masters and their wives from attending the meetings of the State grange and receiving the fifth degree." As a few persons have expressed doubts about the constitutionality of this law, it might be well for the National Grange to take some action.

Article 2, section 1 provides that all business meetings are confined to the fourth degree.

There seems to be a very general wish that all initiates be allowed a voice in the business of the grange, and this in some orders is allowed. As only one degree can be conferred at the same meeting (a most excellent law), it takes some time for a person to acquire full membership. During all this time he is excluded from all meetings for business purposes, and his patience, perhaps, unnecessarily taxed.

Article 5. This, as now worded, caused, perhaps, more trouble and vexation than any other.

I refer to the clause which reads: "Any person interested in

agricultural pursuits." This clause is capable of such varied construction that much confusion and misunderstanding has resulted.

During the infancy of the Order, when members were few, our strength puny, and our chief aim simply social and educational, there was little danger in construing this clause liberally and admitting nearly all who would pay the fee and consent to join such a weak and unpopular institution. But now all these circumstances are changed. To be a Patron of Husbandry is no longer of doubtful propriety, but the proudest in the land are knocking at our door. The Order has become recognized as one of the great powers in the land, and the gates are besieged, from ocean to ocean, by hordes of speculators, demagogues, small politicians, grain-buyers, cotton-factors, and lawyers, who suddenly discover that they are "interested in agricultural pursuits;" but only as a hawk is interested in the sparrow.

You would do well to give this matter a most careful review, and by law determine the proper construction of the constitution, so we may be able to keep our gates closed against those whose only interest consists in what they can make out of us. To have such admitted to our counsels can only result in evil, and sow seeds of internal strife.

Article 6 provides, that the membership fee for charter members shall be less than afterwards. This feature has been subject to much criticism in some quarters. The law was made as it now stands after very careful deliberation to facilitate the introduction of the Order in new territory. That this action was eminently wise is proven by the wonderfully rapid spread of the Order during the last year. In the course of another year the necessity of this provision will have passed away, and if an amendment is made at this meeting, striking out that line referring to charter members, it will be nearly a year before it can secure the sanction of enough States to accomplish the change. Some of the newer subordinate granges have urged that the initiation fee be reduced to three dollars, or even less. But I believe the elder and more successful granges, who have had long experience, are unanimously in favor of the present or even a larger fee, for even now the fund at the command of a grange is not always enough to

furnish the necessary library and other appurtenances to make a grange-room attractive and instructive, and still have a surplus in the treasury for the efficient transaction of business. There is no stronger bond of union than a full treasury: no surer sign of coming dissolution than bankruptcy.

Article 2, section 2 makes it the duty of the master to approve all bills. This seems to me to be entirely foreign to the duties which should properly devolve on such an officer, and I respectfully ask your attention to this matter.

Article 12 also demands most serious consideration to definitely decide what interpretation shall be put upon the word "political." I am gratified that our members are substantially a unit in the opinion that the Order should not in any sense become a political party. But at the same time, there are questions most fundamentally affecting our material interests, which can only be reached through legislation. It seems imperative, that such questions be discussed in the grange. Shall it be ruled that such questions were political in the meaning of the constitution? The questions of transportation, taxation, finance, corruption in public places, were such as come home to the conscience and pockets of our members, and they wish to know whether they will be denied the privilege of canvassing them on the ground of politics. This body should clearly set forth an authoritative interpretation for the guidance of members.

I would call your attention to article 8 of the By-laws, which seems to conflict with our constitution, which decides who shall be members of the National Grange.

Article 10, section 1, By-laws, should be so amended as to include the secretary, and I would suggest the propriety of fixing their compensation at the commencement instead of the close of the year.

During the past year, many questions have arisen on points not covered by any law.

It will be a considerable portion of the business of this session to supply those deficiencies, prominent among which is the want of definiteness with which the duties of the officers of the National and State Granges are described. More efficient work will

be accomplished if all officers are made clearly aware of the duties devolving upon them.

It will also be necessary to provide for the enforcement of the laws and usages of the Order by designating suitable penalties for their violation. It is now the duty of the master of the National Grange "to see that the constitution, by-laws, and resolutions of the National Grange, and the usages of the Order are observed and obeyed." But the means for so doing are not clearly pointed out.

I am gratified to be able to say that generally, I have met with most cordial coöperation of the officers and members, thus lightening a work which would have otherwise been Herculean. I feel it my duty, however, to call your attention to one painful exception, in the case of the Boston Grange. A grange was organized last summer in the city of Boston, Mass., by Deputy Abbott, composed of a class commonly known as middle men, in direct violation of his instructions. This is a class of members never contemplated by the constitution.

At the request of numerous members of the National Grange, and two members of the Executive Committee (the other member, Mr. Saunders, being sick), the master of the National Grange recalled the dispensation of Boston Grange, and directed its return to Deputy Abbott. They refused to obey this demand, and have continued to work as a grange, thus proving themselves a revolutionary and dangerous element.

The master of the Massachusetts State Grange has countenanced and sustained their conduct by directing the installation of their new officers, and investing them with the annual word for 1874. Unless such defiance of authority is properly rebuked and punished, your executive officers will be powerless in the future, and anarchy will reign in the Order.

I have to congratulate the National Grange on the prosperous condition of our treasury, as will appear from the reports of the proper officers. The fund at the command of this body is ample to meet current expenses and leave a handsome surplus. Though this sum seems large, yet it amounts to less than a half-dime from each member, and is not a burdensome tax.

It will devolve upon us to use this capital in a manner which

shall fully justify the members who have placed it in trust in our hands. We can not be too careful in its expenditure, that it be wisely and economically done. Though our people—indeed, the whole people of the land—desire that laborers in every field receive a full compensation for services rendered, yet they are in no humor for paying extravagant salaries, either in Congress or out, and most emphatically condemn it in the highest place as well as the lowest. All accounts should be most carefully scrutinized, and no Credit Mobilier allowed to creep in our ranks.

Brothers and sisters, the future progress, preservation, and usefulness of our Order depends largely on our action at this session. Without doubt, this is the most important meeting of agriculturists ever held in any land. The responsibility resting upon us is enormous. The whole country, both within and without the gates, is searchingly watching our every act—the enemy to find a weak point to attack, our friends hoping and expecting much good to result. The agriculturists of the nation are now on trial.

The Order of Patrons of Husbandry has brought them together in counsel, and it remains for our acts to prove whether we have administrative, executive, and business capacity equal to the occasion.

With patience in investigation, wisdom in enactment, firmness in execution, and justice in all and to all, we may place our Order on an enduring basis, and confidently look to the future in the just expectation of seeing the agriculturists of the country intelligent, happy, prosperous, powerful, drawn together by a silken band encircling the whole land, and permeated all through with the kindest sentiments of fraternity.

Worthy Secretary Kelley reported as follows :

WORTHY MASTER AND PATRONS : I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Secretary's office, during the year ending December 31st, 1873 :

At the beginning of the year, there had been established 1362 granges, and on the 31st of December, there were 10,029, showing an increase in the number of subordinate granges of 8667 for the year 1873, and on which we have received pay for 8621, leaving 46 unaccounted for by the accompanying statement.

For some time past, the correspondence of this office has averaged about four thousand letters and a proportionate number of postal-cards per month, nearly all of which require some attention.

There have been printed 170,000 constitutions, 135,000 manuals, and 884,000 tracts, while the total number of printed sheets and documents of various kinds has reached near 1,900,000 copies.

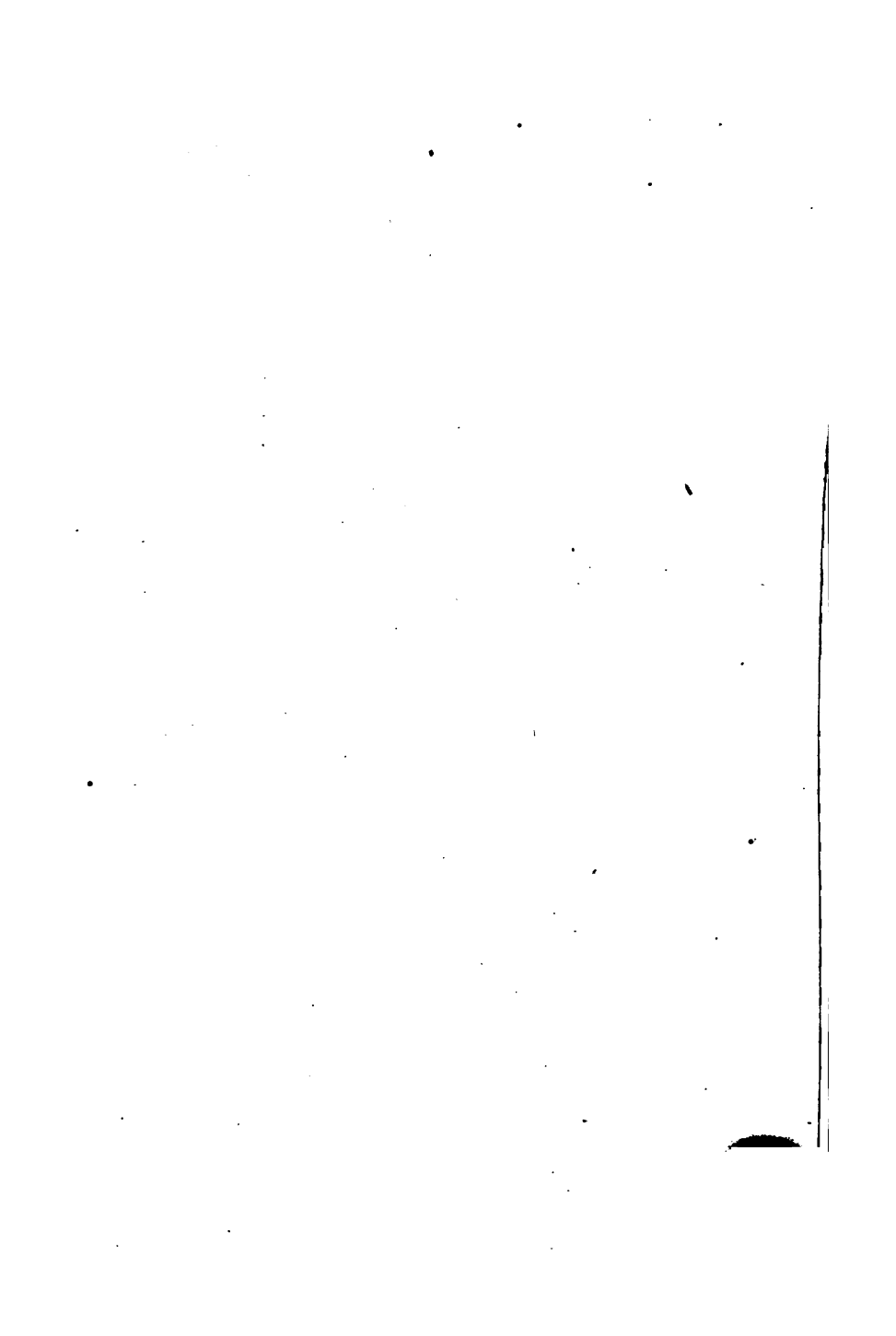
During the year, we have organized 24 State granges, and supplied 1294 State deputies with material for organizing in their respective States; and the force in this office has been increased from three in January to thirteen kept constantly employed at the present time.

For the statement of the expenses of the Secretary's office, you are respectfully referred to my books, which have been submitted to the Executive Committee. (See Appendix at end of Proceedings.)

Brother Moore moved to divide this report, and a portion be referred to the Committee on Good of the Order, and that portion relating to finance to the Auditing Committee.

Carried.

Brother McDowell, Treasurer, then submitted his report, which was referred to the Auditing Committee.



CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ALL MONEYS RECEIVED AND PAID OUT BY THE
TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1873.

Dr. <i>Treasurer in account with the National Grange Patrons of Husbandry.</i>		Cr.	
Dec. 31, 18621 Applications for Dispen- sations at \$15 each.	\$129,315 00	Dec. 31, Salaries	\$5,416 67
Amt. received for Manuals, etc.	863 77	Printing	29,314 40
May 8, Treasurer State Grange Iowa, 1873	734 94	Deputies: Curtis, \$493.77; Garrettson, \$1285.06; Paulk, \$482.32; Beeman, \$732.70; Vaughan, \$552.40; Wilkinson, \$400; Abbott, \$238; Aiken, \$534; Ohr, \$771; Baird, 182; Thompson, \$205.75; Smed- ley, \$112.35	
Nov. 17, Treasurer State Grange Wis- consin, acct. of dues for quar- ter ending June 30, 1873	105 97	Executive Committee: Aiken, \$439; Shankland, \$600.	5,988 35
" 28, Treasurer State Grange Illi- nois, acct. of dues for quarter ending June 30, 1873.	260 42	Regalia and song-books.	1,039 00
Dec. 31, Treasurer State Grange Wis- consin, acct. of dues for quarter ending Sept. 30.	160 35	Tin cases	9,989 40
" 31, Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., for interest on acct. for 1873	710 88	Traveling Expenses: Adams, \$704.69; Thompson, \$488.31	5,027 55
		Sundries: Balance due O. H. Kelley, Jan. 1, 1873.	1,188 00
		Appropriation of N. G. to William Saunders.	3,321 74
		J. R. Thompson	1,000 00
			500 00

DR. *Treasurer in account with the National Grange Patrons of Husbandry.—Continued.* CR.

Dec. 31, Sundries—Continued.	
Wrapping-paper	\$123 90
Office rent.....	887 49
Two safes.....	450 00
Mileage:	
D. W. Adams, \$113.30 ;	546 80
Mrs. D. W. Adams, \$113.30 ;	11 58
John Cochran, \$39.20 ;	50 00
E. R. Shankland, \$103.30 ;	1,142 84
W. D. Wilson, \$117.70...	39,512 50
Protest fees.....	7,742 00
J. R. Thompson, clerk Exec. Committee.....	
Padlocks.....	50 00
Investment in U. S. c'y 6s....	1,142 84
Contingent fund (drafts for)...	39,512 50
Amt. expended by Sec'y on acct. of contingent expenses out of the general cash receipts per acct.....	7,742 00
Balance.....	6,098 81
	13,365 25
	<u>\$132,151 28</u>
Balance at Loan and Trust Co.	\$13,152 70
" in hands of Secretary	152 55
	<u>\$13,305 25</u>

Worthy Lecturer, T. A. Thompson, submitted his report as follows :

WORTHY MASTER, OFFICERS, AND BROTHERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE : In obedience to the instructions of the Executive Committee, the Lecturer, seven months ago, entered upon the devotion of his entire time to the interests of the Order of Patrons.

During this time he has traveled into and through twenty-four States, and labored from two days to two weeks in fourteen different States ; assisted at the organization of eight State granges ; visited and lectured to eight subordinate granges, and organized fifteen new ones ; given eighteen public addresses, and exemplified the unwritten work of the order, fully, thirty-three times, and written eleven hundred and forty-two letters.

The great demand for granges in all sections produced such a tax upon the time of organizing deputies, that the work in very many instances was imperfectly done. As a consequence, many hundreds, yea, thousands of questions have been asked by officers of these granges so hastily and imperfectly instructed. It was regarded due to these officers, that they be patiently heard and fully answered. This has led to a large portion of the vast correspondence of which the worthy Secretary has reported.

Again, there being no duly authorized Monitor or Digest issued by this body to meet the thousand points which arise, it seemed unavoidable that the correspondence should receive the attention it has.

It is respectfully submitted in this connection, that if this grange will now pass judgment upon a variety of questions raised and herewith presented for revocation or ratification, the larger part of the correspondence which now so extensively taxes the time of Masters of State granges and the officers of this body, will be avoided.

By article 9 of the By-laws it is enjoined upon the Executive Committee to decide questions, etc., referred to them, and to lay before this session a report of their decisions, etc.

As the chairman of that committee requested the lecturer to act in behalf of the committee in examining and deciding questions referred to them, he entered early upon this department of his

duties, making a note of his conclusions, the results of which are submitted herewith, alphabetically and numerically arranged.

It is solicited that these decisions be submitted to a committee of this grange, and carefully examined ; and, so far as found correct, receive the indorsement of this body.

In connection with the several decisions herewith submitted, the opportunity has been embraced to anticipate other points which are sure, sooner or later, to arise, and which will require consideration.

It is respectfully asked, that these likewise be referred to the committee and receive such disposition as the judgment of this grange shall affix.

With the vast national character the Order has assumed, and the great diversity of experiences and dispositions, opinions, and tastes of the membership, it is but reasonable to expect equally diversified opinions will obtain in reference to the future wants of the Order.

On one hand, an intelligent member of this body, now upon this floor, has signified his desire, that two thirds of the degrees be abolished, and nearly all of the ceremonies abandoned, while, on the other hand, another wants a ceremony introduced in the work of each degree, similar in its relation to the work of the degree the "Field work" bears to the 1st.

It is manifest, also, equally diversified views exist among intelligent warm-hearted friends of the Order, now represented upon this floor, in regard to eligibility to membership.

One class would have the membership limited to those practically engaged in agriculture ; while others would admit to its ranks those from every walk in life whose lives give evidence of hearts in sympathy with this great movement.

It must be apparent to all that neither of these extremes will receive the hearty indorsement of this grange.

While it may be true the Order has assumed proportions little dreamed of by its founders, yet they builded wiser than they knew ; they laid broad and deep the foundation of a superstructure into which a million members gather and find encouragement and instruction, and we believe is destined to afford shelter to a million more.

If a member of the last session, who is with us to-day, could have drawn aside the veil, and with prophetic vision portrayed the status of the Order as it now exists, with its elevating and ennobling results, he would have been declared an enthusiast, if not a maniac. And have we reached the zenith of our prosperity? Have our achievements attained their climax?

Let the deliberations, the spirit, the results of this session testify. To us, to-day, the eyes of this nation are directed, and the hopes of millions of agriculturists hang upon the issues of the deliberations of this assemblage. The Order has grown to vast proportions and ramified with its influence every interest in society, and stands before the nation honored and respected.

It has burst the chains of commercial servitude; rent in twain the veil which shut out the sunlight of prosperity from the husbandman; knocked the shackles which bound him to his toil; and bid him look aloft where he surveys new fields; and higher planes of investigation, social and intellectual enjoyment constantly rise before him.

In view of the stupendous responsibilities of the hour, the like of which have not been presented during the present century, in the interest of agriculture, it becomes us to pause and consider, and cast our individual preferences into a common stock, deliberate in the spirit of brotherly kindness, and when results are reached according to the will of the majority, accept that expression as the best.

Brother Saunders, from the Executive Committee, presented the following report, which, on motion of Brother Colton, was referred to a committee of five to examine, assort, and distribute among the appropriate committees.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

WORTHY MASTER AND PATRONS: The unexpected increase of the Order during the past year so far exceeded the provisional data upon which the National Grange at its last session based its expenditures, determined its appropriations, and defined the duties of its officers, that your committee soon found themselves embarrassed in the execution of duties which they clearly saw

would be for the great benefit of the Order. While their power seemed unbounded, so far as regarded a general supervision of the work of the National Grange, it was in reality very limited. They were not empowered to create new offices, or to incur expenses by introducing new machinery that would enable them to fulfil demands occasioned by the rapidly-growing necessities of the Order. In all matters connected with the introduction of a new organization such as ours, where no foresight can determine the result, a large amount of latitude and discretionary power must be allowed to those appointed to carry out practical details. Experience only can point the road to perfection; the future will thus be constantly enriched by the accumulated knowledge gained from the records of the past, and if our progress appears to be tardy, it is owing to the desire to impart a substantial character to our work.

We hope, therefore, that the respective duties of the officers of the National Grange will in future be so clearly defined, both as to exact and discretionary powers, that no embarrassments can possibly intervene between the conviction of an undoubted necessity and its complete practical accomplishment.

Article 9 of the By-laws of the National Grange states that "It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to exercise a general supervision of the affairs of the Order during the recess of the National Grange; to instruct the secretary in regard to printing and disbursements, and to place in his hands a contingent fund."

While this apparently places the disbursements under the control of your committee, it practically leaves their control in the hands of the secretary, where they are directed to place the contingent fund.

It is the duty of the secretary, as administrative officer of the National Grange, to ascertain the wants of his office; and the amount of money required to supply them, constitutes and fixes the amount of contingent fund to be placed in his hands, and which is subject to his requisition.

Your committee have issued three business circulars during the year, and have visited various cities and manufacturing stations in efforts to effect special arrangements for the benefit of

the Order. They have also placed themselves in correspondence with presidents and directors of railroad and other transportation companies, and have made personal visits to many of them, and in all their negotiations the utmost harmony has prevailed. Occasionally prejudices were encountered, and wrong impressions with regard to the aims and objects of the Order had to be removed; but after acquiring a thorough understanding of our propositions in regard to business transactions, satisfactory arrangements were speedily perfected.

Unfortunately for the Order, the impression prevails to some extent that its chief mission is to fight railroads and denounce capitalists. It is a work of time to remove these erroneous impressions, and to prove that we do not wage a meaningless aggressive warfare upon any interest whatever; but that, on the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of producers and consumers, but equally for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our efficiency; and as their interests are thus intimately connected with our interests, harmonious action is evidently mutually advantageous. Almost the first sentence in our declaration of principles in the constitution of the Order sets forth the conviction that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity;" so that, while we aim to elevate ourselves, we avoid doing so at the expense of running down others.

As the Order extended, it became very obvious to your committee that the lecturer should take the field for its good. The By-laws of the National Grange indicate that this officer should receive compensation for services rendered, but as this body failed to designate any definite amount, your committee were constrained to accept the responsibility of doing so in order that his services might be secured, and we hope that our action in this matter will meet your approval.

It is of the greatest importance that perfect uniformity should exist in the workings of the granges, for upon this, more than upon any other point, does their united efficiency depend. Indeed, it may not be asserting too much to remark that, until perfect uni-

formity is secured, not only so far as regards the formality of our ritual, but, what is of even more importance, in the thorough and complete knowledge and recognition of our principles of action, success in any undertaking, as a United Order, can only be partial, not complete.

If not already recognized by all sisters and brothers, they must become fully cognizant of the truth, that the high purposes and aims of the Order, the grand objects it seeks to promote and secure, and the modes by which they are to be advanced and retained, are all founded upon a deep-studied philosophy, and not upon temporary or indefinite expedients.

At an early period of their deliberations, your committee became convinced that their powers were far too contracted to enable them to proceed in the execution of measures for the benefit of the Order, with satisfaction to themselves. The extent of its delegated authority was too indefinite; its privileges in relation to expenditures for the good of the Order, the unsatisfactory provisions for compensation of services rendered by any personal devotion to the interests of the Order, and its inability to effect harmonious action with the defined duties of other executive officers of the Order, all combined to exercise a depressing influence upon its labors.

The past experience of your committee induces it to suggest for your consideration the propriety of establishing a Business Agency in the office of the National Grange, to be under the direct and entire control of the Executive Committee.

Among other duties, this agency would publish, at such intervals of time as would be deemed best, a complete business directory of the Order. This would not only embrace all arrangements made by the Executive Committee of the National Grange, but also those of all State granges; thus showing at one comprehensive view the entire business facilities of the Order, a copy to be sent to each subordinate grange as soon as published.

The time is rapidly approaching, if not now at hand, when a complete statistical showing of the amount produced by the granges, and its relation to the entire produce of the country, will be an absolute necessity. We certainly can command the

machinery for collecting this information to a degree of accuracy far exceeding in value that of any mode of gathering statistics that the world has ever seen, and the system should be established without delay.

The original "Prospectus" (if that term may be used) of the Order, comprised many features which are not yet in practical force, and which can only be attempted when the National Grange is possessed of ample pecuniary means for their introduction. The publication and distribution of original essays on subjects of value to the productive agencies of the Order may succeed those now disseminated under the appellation of Bryan Fund Tracts. Competent essayists could also be advantageously employed to prepare or deliver lectures to granges, under the direction of the Executive Committee, aided, it may be, by sub-committees appointed for special objects. In this way schemes for insurance both of life and property may be matured and set in motion, or indeed any proposition adopted by authorized committees could be introduced into actual practice and at once.

Your committee being keenly jealous of any thing likely to injure the Order, would respectfully caution members to be particularly guarded in all their outgoings and incomings. There is no evil force that can withstand our silent power for good. We must learn to labor and to wait. With patience we must succeed in all well-directed efforts; without it, we may fail.

In all communications with our fellow-citizens we should enjoin the greatest circumspection upon our individual acts; the Order has succeeded in stamping its progress with the emblems of truth and fidelity. We must be true to each other, and avoid all actions about the propriety of which we have the slightest doubt.

Especially should we be guarded in questions pertaining to publications of any kind.

No member has a right to compromise his brothers and sisters by precipitate action upon any subject whatever that has not received the approval of the National Grange.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS,
D. WYATT AIKEN,
E. R. SHANKLAND.

On motion of Brother Hamilton, so much of the Master's address as related to the Boston Grange was referred to a special committee of five; whereupon the Master appointed as said committee, Brothers Hamilton, California; Golder, Illinois; Mills, North-Carolina; Davie, Kentucky, and Lewis, Louisiana.

The remainder of the Master's address and the Lecturer's report were referred to appropriate committees.

The committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this Grange upon the death of Brother Johnson of Texas, reported:

The Great Master of the Universe has seen fit in his wisdom to take from time to eternity our Brother J. B. Johnson, Worthy Master of the State Grange of Texas; and, as brothers and sisters of the Patrons of Husbandry, the noble Order of which he so recently was a member, we beg leave, in annual session assembled, to offer the following resolutions:

1st. That the National Grange in annual session has to-day learned with profound regret of the death of Brother J. B. Johnson, Master of the State Grange of Texas.

2d. That whilst the National Grange deplores the loss of our worthy brother, and shall miss him in our deliberations on this occasion, still as Patrons we bow in humble submission to the will of "Him who doeth all things well."

3d. That we extend our sympathies to the bereaved family of our brother, commending them to Him "who tempereth the wind to the shorn lamb."

4th. That these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, and a blank page of our Secretary's book be set apart expressly for the name of our brother, J. B. Johnson, with his age, date of his election as Master of the State Grange of Texas, and also date of his death, and that the Secretary be requested to send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

B. F. WARDLAW,	} Committee.
DANIEL CLARK,	
GEORGE D. HINCKLEY,	

On motion, the grange adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master in the chair.

The Worthy Master announced the following special committees :

Committee to Distribute Report of Executive Committee—
Brother Colton, Vermont ; Sister Howland, New-York ; Brother Tenney, Colorado ; Sister Smith, Georgia ; and Brother Crew, Dakota.

Brother Moore, Maryland, moved a By-law relating to *per diem* and mileage.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Ellis, Ohio, moved an amendment to the constitution, permitting business to be done in the first degree.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Porter, Nebraska, moved that constitution and rituals be printed in German and Scandinavian.

Referred to Committee on Good of the Order.

Brother White, Virginia, moved the dispensation fees be reduced to \$10.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Trimble, District of Columbia, moved that all memorials and petitions be read by title, and referred to appropriate committees.

Adopted.

Brother Smedley, Iowa, presented the claim of L. D. Tracy, and moved a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the claim.

Adopted.

At the request of the Worthy Master, the Worthy Overseer appointed the committee : Brothers Mills, North-Carolina ; Porter, Nebraska, and White, Virginia.

Brother Davie, Kentucky, moved a constitutional amendment, equalizing membership fees.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Dinwiddie, Indiana, offered a resolution disposing of the property of a grange that had lost its charter.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Lewis, Louisiana, offered a resolution amending section 8, article 9 of the constitution.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Clarke, Oregon, offered a resolution changing the organization of the National Grange.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Hudson, Kansas, offered a resolution making dues to the State grange payable semi-annually.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother White, Virginia, offered a resolution relating to charters and dispensations.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Hamilton, California, moved a resolution admitting 20 men as charter members.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Howland, New-Jersey, offered a resolution, making the membership fees the same for both sexes ; also making L. A. S. member of State grange.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.
 Passed.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, February 5.

Grange met at ten A.M., and opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair. After the reading of the proceedings of the previous day, the Master appointed the following committees:

On Constitution and By-laws—Chambers, of Alabama ; Mauger, of Pennsylvania ; Smedley, of Iowa ; McDowell, of New-York, and Allen, of Missouri.

On Transportation and Coöperation—Smedley, of Iowa ; Jones, of Arkansas ; Maxwell, of Tennessee ; Wardlaw, of Florida ; Howland, of New-Jersey.

On Good of the Order—White, of Virginia ; Cochrane, of Wisconsin ; Porter, of Nebraska ; Lewis, of Louisiana ; Trimble, of District of Columbia ; Mrs. Smedley, of Iowa ; and Mrs. Howland, of New-Jersey.

On Master's Message and Lecturer's Report—Grosh, of District of Columbia ; Porter, of Nebraska ; Chase, of New-Hampshire ; Parsons, of Minnesota ; and Ellis, of Ohio.

On Commercial Relations—Taylor, of South-Carolina ; Allis, of Massachusetts ; Hamilton, of California ; Parsons, of Minnesota, and James, of Indiana.

On Finances—Smith, of Georgia ; Moore, of Maryland ; Vaughan, of Mississippi ; Wright, of California ; Curtiss, of District of Columbia.

On Accounts—Golder, of Illinois ; Crew, of Dakota ; Kitchen, of West-Virginia ; Chase, of New-Hampshire ; Davie, of Kentucky.

On Mileage—Shankland, of Iowa ; Clark, of Oregon ; Ellis, of Ohio ; White, of Virginia ; and Jones, of Arkansas.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Order of Business

was reconsidered and recommitted to the committee, and the chairman subsequently reported back the same with the following amendment:

Your committee respectfully report and recommend, that the meetings of this Grange at this annual session be held in the fourth degree, except when otherwise ordered by vote.

That the meetings at all future sessions of the National Grange be in the sixth degree, unless otherwise ordered by vote.

JOSEPH T. MOORE.

Chairman.

Adopted.

Brother Allen asked leave to make a correction of his address of welcome. He said he had received a dispatch from Secretary Coffey, announcing that there are one thousand six hundred granges in Missouri.

Granted.

Brother Aiken offered the following:

Whereas, The State Grange of Iowa have expended their funds in relieving those brothers in North-western Iowa who have suffered from the effects of the grasshopper; be it therefore

Resolved, That the dues of the State Grange of Iowa to the National Grange for the three quarters of 1878, ending June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st, be returned to the treasury of the State grange, and that the Worthy Master of the National Grange issue a draft upon our treasury for the amount necessary.

Brother Parsons moved to insert also the word Minnesota in the resolution.

Adopted.

Brother Crew, moved to insert the word Dakota in the resolution.

Adopted.

On motion, the whole subject was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Brother Golder, Illinois, offered a constitutional amendment.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Smith, Georgia, offered a resolution amending articles five and thirteen of the constitution.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Tenney, Colorado, moved a constitutional amendment concerning the wives of masters.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

NEW BUSINESS was then called by States.

Florida.—Presented suggestions on "ritual."

Referred to Committee on Ritual.

Iowa.—Presented memorial of business agents to enable them to coöperate.

Referred to Committee on Coöperation.

Maryland.—Resolutions on "degrees," "fees," and representation.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Missouri.—Communication on crop reports and statistics.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Minnesota.—Presented instructions which were referred to appropriate committees.

Nebraska.—Resolutions on investment of funds.

Reduction of fees.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Resolutions in regard to section 8, article 9.

Chase, New-Hampshire, moved to lay on the table ; so ordered.

Oregon.—Resolution that the National Grange appoint agents, etc.

Referred to Committee on Coöperation.

Tennessee.—Communication from county council of Davidson County.

Referred to Committee on Ritual.

Virginia.—Resolution for confidential committee on price-lists.

Referred to Committee on Coöperation.

West Virginia.—Resolution.

Referred to Committee on Good of Order.

Colorado.—Resolution on Ritual.

Referred to Committee on Ritual.

Dakota.—Memorial for compensation.

Referred to Committee on Grievances.

Resolution that Secretary of National Grange give bond.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Trimble.—Resolution that Executive Committee report vacancies in offices in National Grange.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Worthy Master of the National Grange is the chief custodian of the secret work of the Order, as received from the seventh degree.

Adopted.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Grange again assembled at seven P.M., pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Finance presented their report in relation to the North-western sufferers, recommending that appropriations from the treasury of the National Grange be made as follows : to the State Grange of Iowa, \$3000 ; to Minnesota, \$1000 ; to Dakota, \$750 ; and that the Treasurer of the National Grange pay said amounts to the Masters of the respective States.

Adopted.

Indiana.—Instructions.

Referred to Committee on Good of Order.

Kentucky.—Resolutions on Coöperation.

Referred.

Maryland.—Resolution on Transportation.

Referred.

Resolution on Constitution.

Referred.

Virginia.—Resolution.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Porter.—Resolution.

Referred to Committee on Good of Order.

Parsons.—Resolution on Officers.

Referred to Committee on Good of Order.

Parsons moved, that the grange be closed in the fourth degree, to enable the Master to confer the fifth degree.

Adopted.

Grange closed in due form.

Adjourned.

THIRD DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, February 6.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair. Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Brother Colton, Vermont, from Committee on Executive Committee's report, submitted the following :

WORTHY MASTER :

Your committee, to whom was referred the report of the Executive Committee of the National Grange, would respectfully report, that they have considered the same, and recommend—

1. That so much of said report as relates to transportation be referred to the Committee on Transportation and Coöperation.

2. That so much of said report as relates to the duties of the officers of the National Grange be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Also so much as relates to article 9 of the By-laws to same committee.

3. Your committee would further recommend, that such portions of said report as refer to "uniformity of work" be referred to the Committee on Ritual.

4. That so much of said report as relates to establishing a business agency in the office of the National Grange be referred to the Committee on the Good of the Order.

5. That so much of said report as relates to the publication and distribution of original essays, lectures before granges, insurance both life and property, be referred to the Executive Committee of the National Grange.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. P. COLTON, *for Committee.*

The Committee on the Good of the Order beg to make a partial report.

1. The petition to print the ritual and constitution of the Order in the German and Scandinavian languages, was carefully considered, and your committee recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That such numbers of *the Constitution and Ritual* be printed in the German language as the Executive Committee may deem advisable.

Your committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the question of printing the above in the Scandinavian language.

2. The report of the Secretary was considered, and your committee recommend the following :

Resolved, That the National Secretary be authorized to issue to the Masters of States, on their requisition, thirteen rituals, five long books, and five constitutions, for each deputy by them appointed, said documents to be held as the property of the National Grange.

3. Your committee having had under consideration the memorial of lecturer Thompson on arbitration, also the memorial of — on the same, report that the subject is one that enlists the sympathies of the committee, and as it seems to be too indefinite for present action, we suggest that a committee be appointed to report on the question to the eighth session of the National Grange.

4. Your committee carefully considered the resolutions of the State grange of West-Virginia, and so far as they refer to memorializing Congress on the subject of national finance, bonded debt, etc., your committee are of opinion that it would be injudicious for the National Grange to take action upon that subject.

5. Your committee ask to be excused from the further consideration of so much of said resolutions as refers to transportation, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Transportation and Coöperation.

6. Your committee have had under consideration the memorial of Brother Porter, of Nebraska, and recommend the following :

Resolved, That the secretary issue charters to certain granges

in Nebraska, which have paid the fees to defaulting deputies, on proof being submitted to the Executive Committee of the payment of the fees to deputies, and that they are deprived of their charters from no fault of theirs.

7. Your committee have had under consideration the question of the disposition of the surplus funds in the treasury of the National Grange, and, after careful examination of the memorials and petitions, are not prepared to recommend any different policy than that now practised by the Executive Committee, and ask to be excused from the further consideration of the subject.

On motion, the words "and ritual" in the first paragraph of the report were stricken out.

Report adopted.

Brother Mills, North-Carolina, from the Committee on Claims, reported on the claim of Brother L. D. Tracy, recommending it be allowed.

Adopted.

Worthy Master Adams called W. O. Taylor to the chair.

The roll of States was then called.

Brother Wardlaw, Florida, moved the time of each speaker be limited to five minutes.

Adopted.

Georgia—Moved constitutional amendment.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Iowa—Presented suggestions concerning the Werner Harvester.

Referred to the Executive Committee.

Kansas—Moved the appointment of a Committee to whom shall be referred the irregularities of deputies in Kansas.

Adopted.

Worthy Overseer appointed Brothers Davie, Wright, and Hinckley.

Kentucky—Moved constitutional amendment.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Maryland—Moved the conferring the sixth degree be made the special order for Saturday, at ten P.M.

Adopted.

Michigan—Moved amendment of section 3, article 7 of the constitution.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.
Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Grange opened in due form.

A communication from the Board of Trade of St. Louis was read.

Brother Wilson moved, that the grange accept the invitation, and visit the Board of Trade in a body, on Monday, at three P.M.
Adopted.

A report on Internal Communication was then read and, on motion of Brother Parsons—

Referred to Committee on Transportation.

Brother Allen presented a resolution, desiring it to be referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

So referred.

Brother Porter, amendment to article 5.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Brother Taylor, resolution on Canada granges.

Referred to Committee on Good of Order.

Brother Aiken, memorial to Congress, relating to patents.

Referred to Committee on Commercial Relations.

Brother Clark, of Oregon, moved that Charleston, S. C., be selected as the place for holding the eighth annual session of the National Grange.

Carried unanimously.

Brother Taylor, in the name of South-Carolina, thanked the members for their unanimity, and assured them, that no effort would be spared to make their session an agreeable one.

Brother Kitchen, of West-Virginia, presented a memorial, and asked its reference to the Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

So referred.

On motion of Brother Wright, of California, Eben Thompson, Deputy for Canada, was invited to make a report of the condition and wants of the Order in the Dominion. He said that there were ten granges in Canada, some of them numbering over one hundred members; that they desired to establish a Dominion

Grange, in order to have a fixed headquarters for the Order, and that they most earnestly desired to see the organization become international.

Received as information.

The following Committee on Resolutions was appointed to prepare a platform of principles of the National Grange: Brothers Wardlaw, of Florida; Hamilton, of California; Jones, of Arkansas; Maxwell, of Tennessee; Hinckley, of New-York.

On motion, the grange adjourned.

FOURTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, February 7.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams presiding. Minutes of previous day's session read, corrected, and approved.

On motion, it was—

Resolved, That the Grange adjourn at eleven A.M., to enable committees to prepare work.

Brother Smith, of Georgia, asked that the order of business be suspended, to permit him to offer a resolution.

Granted.

He then presented the following :

Resolved, That this grange will not permit the introduction of any new matter after the evening session of Monday, the 9th inst., without the consent of two thirds of its members present.

Adopted.

Brothers Chase and Parsons asked to be excused from serving on the Committee on Master's Message and Lecturer's Report, as they had to attend other important committees.

Granted.

The Worthy Master appointed Sisters Chase and Parsons to fill the vacancies.

ON CALL OF STATES.

Arkansas.—Resolutions on election of officers in sub-granges, and meetings of National Grange.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Kansas.—Communication from Board of Trade, and a memorial relative to the formation of the Indian Territory into a territorial government.

Referred to Committee on Commercial Relations.

Mississippi.—Memorial for the relief of Deputy H. W. L. Lewis, and R. H. Baird, Deputy of Texas.

Brother Wright was appointed in his place.

Indiana.—Resolution on currency question.

Referred to Committee on Commercial Relations.

Kansas.—Resolution in regard to qualifications for membership and officers.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Massachusetts.—Resolution for constitutional amendment.

Referred to Committee on Constitution and By-laws.

Minnesota.—Resolution to remove the headquarters of the National Grange to St. Louis, and that the matter be referred to a special committee of five, appointed for the purpose in the usual manner, and that said committee report at the eighth annual session of the National Grange.

Adopted.

The Worthy Master appointed the following committee : Brothers Parsons, Minnesota ; Hamilton, California ; Colton, Vermont ; Allen, Missouri ; Wardlaw, Florida.

New-Jersey.—Brother Thompson presented resolutions.

Referred to Committees on Constitution and By-laws and Boston Grange.

Ohio.—Moved that itemized reports of secretary and treasurer be incorporated in the proceedings of this meeting, and that one copy, at least, be furnished to each subordinate grange.

Adopted.

Pennsylvania.—Resolution relating to machines and State agencies.

Referred to Committee on Good of the Order.

On motion, the grange determined to visit the Merchants' Exchange on Thursday at twelve o'clock, and the secretary was instructed to notify the Board of Trade immediately.

Sister Howland, of New-Jersey, presented a resolution of thanks to Britton A. Hill, for copies of his work presented to the Sisters of the grange.

Adopted.

Brother Aiken asked leave of absence for the chairman of Executive Committee, for reason of indisposition.

Granted.

On motion of Brother Chambers, report of Committee on Con-

stitution and By-laws was made the special order for seven o'clock P.M.

Brother Maxwell asked to be excused from Committee on Resolutions.

Granted.

Worthy Master appointed Brother Hudson to fill the vacancy. Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Grange opened in due form. Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

Special Order: Report of Committee on Constitution and By-laws. After amendment, the By-laws were adopted, as follows:

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

The fourth day of December, the birthday of the Patrons of Husbandry, shall be celebrated as the anniversary of the Order.

ARTICLE II.

Not less than the representatives of twenty States present at any meeting of the National Grange shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE III.

At the annual meeting of each State Grange it may elect a proxy to represent the State Grange in the National Grange in case of the inability of the Master to attend, and such proxies shall, in all cases, be Past-Masters of their State Granges.

ARTICLE IV.

Questions of administration and jurisprudence arising in and between State Granges, and appeals from the action and decision thereof, shall be referred to the Master and Executive Committee of the National Grange, whose decision shall be respected and obeyed until overruled by action of the National Grange.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of the Master to preside at meetings of the National Grange ; to see that all officers and members of committees properly perform their respective duties ; to see that the constitution, by-laws, and resolutions of the National Grange, and the usages of the Order are observed and obeyed, and generally to perform all duties pertaining to such office.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all proceedings of the National Grange, to keep a just and true account of all moneys received and deposited by him in the fiscal agency ; to countersign all drafts drawn by the Treasurer ; to conduct the correspondence of the National Grange ; and to perform such other duties appertaining to his office as may be required by the Master and Executive Committee.

It shall be his duty, at least once each week, to deposit with the fiscal agency holding the funds of the National Grange all moneys that may have come into his hands, and forward a duplicate receipt therefor to the Treasurer, and to make a full report of all transactions to the National Grange at each annual session.

It shall be his further duty to procure a monthly report from the fiscal agency, with whom the funds of the National Grange are deposited, of all moneys received and paid out by them during each month, and send a copy of such report to the Executive Committee and the Master of the National Grange.

He shall give bond in such sum and with such security as may be approved by the Executive Committee.*

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to issue all drafts upon the fiscal agency of the Order, said drafts having been previously approved by the Master and countersigned by the Secretary of the National Grange.

SEC. 2. He shall report monthly to the Master of the National Grange a statement of all moneys deposited to his credit in the

fiscal agency, and of all drafts signed by him during the *previous* month.

SEC. 3. He shall report to the National Grange at each annual session a statement of all moneys deposited in the fiscal agency, and of all drafts signed by him since his last annual report.

SEC. 4. It shall be his duty to collect all interest accruing on investments made by the Executive Committee, and to deposit the same in the fiscal agency

ARTICLE VIII.

It shall be the duty of the Lecturer to visit, for the good of the Order, such portions of the United States as the Master and the Executive Committee may direct, for which services he shall receive compensation.

ARTICLE IX.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to exercise a general supervision of the affairs of the Order during the recess of the National Grange. They shall have authority to act on all matters of interest to the Order when the National Grange is not in session; shall provide for the welfare of the Order in business matters; and shall report their acts in detail to the National Grange on the first day of its annual meeting.

The Master of the National Grange shall be considered, *ex officio*, a member of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X.

SECTION 1. Such compensation for time and service shall be given the Master, Lecturer, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee as the National Grange may, from time to time, determine.

SEC. 2. Whenever General Deputies are appointed by the Master of the National Grange, said deputies shall receive such compensation for time and services as may be determined by the Master and the Executive Committee: Provided, In no case shall pay, from the National Grange, be given General Deputies in any State after the formation of its State grange.

ARTICLE XI.

SECTION 1. The financial reports of Subordinate Granges shall be made on the first day of January, the first day of April, the first day of July, and the first day of October.

SEC. 2. State Granges shall date their financial existence three months after the first day of January, first day of April, first day of July, and first day of October, immediately following their organization.

ARTICLE XII.

Each session of the National Grange shall fix the compensation of its members.

ARTICLE XIII.

Special meetings of the National Grange shall be called by the Master upon the application of the Masters of twenty State Granges, one month's notice of such meeting being given to all members of the National Grange. No alterations or amendments to the By-laws or Ritual shall be made at any special meeting.

ARTICLE XIV.

Upon the demand of five members, the ayes and noes may be called upon any question, and when so called, shall be entered by the secretary upon his minutes.

ARTICLE XV.

Past-Masters are Masters who have been duly elected and installed, and who have served out the term for which they were elected.

ARTICLE XVI.

Vacancies in office may be filled at any regular meeting of the Grange.

ARTICLE XVII.

Subordinate Granges may be consolidated in the mode and upon such terms as may be prescribed by the State granges.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SECTION 1. In case satisfactory evidence shall be brought to the Master of the National Grange that a Grange has been organized contrary to the laws or usages of the Order, or is working in violation of its laws or usages, it shall be the duty of the Master to revoke the charter of such offending Grange.

SEC. 2. In case satisfactory evidence shall come to the Master of a State Grange, that a Grange has been organized contrary to the laws and usages of the Order, or is working in violation of the same, it shall be the duty of the Master to suspend such offending Grange, and at once forward to the Master of the National Grange notice of the same, together with the evidence in the case, who shall, if in his opinion the good of the Order requires such action, revoke the charter of such offending Grange.

SEC. 3. Granges, whose charters are thus revoked, may appeal to the National Grange at its next session for the final action of that body.

ARTICLE XIX.

These By-laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the National Grange by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Grange adjourned.

SIXTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

TUESDAY, February 10.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Brother Grosh, from the Committee on Lecturer's Address, reported, recommending that all decisions on law and usage, made or to be made, be referred to a committee, who shall report a digest to this grange at their eighth annual session.

Adopted.

Worthy Master appointed the following: Brothers J. R. Thompson, District of Columbia; Allen, Missouri; Hamilton, California; Ellis, Ohio; and Vaughan, Mississippi.

Brother Mills, from Committee on Claims, reported the claim of W. H. L. Lewis, Deputy for Louisiana, and recommended that it be allowed. Adopted.

Claim of Brother Ferry, Deputy for Dakota, and recommended that it be allowed. Adopted.

Claims of divers parties presented by O. H. Kelley, and recommended they be allowed. Adopted.

Brother Grosh asked leave of absence for Brother Seymour, of New-York. Granted.

Brother Moore, Maryland, presented the following:

Resolved, That the officers and all the voting members of this, the seventh session, and members of all committees from the last session required to report to this session, be allowed compensation as follows: \$5 for each and every day the session may last, and \$5 for every 500 miles traveled both ways, or fraction

thereof of 250 miles or over, and mileage at the rate of 5 cents per mile for every mile traveled both ways by the usual route, to be paid in cash. This not in any way to be construed so as to apply twice when a member may have two positions.

Adopted.

Brother Taylor submitted the report of Committee on Commercial Relations :

Your committee cordially indorse the intention of the resolution offered by Brother Aiken, and recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That the Master and Executive Committee of the National Grange be and are hereby appointed a committee, with instructions to memorialize Congress at as early a day as practicable, upon the subject of the patent laws.

Adopted.

Brother White, from Committee on Good of the Order, reported in regard to crop reports and business agents, recommending they be referred to the Executive Committee. Adopted.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Grange opened in due form.

Brother Hinckley, of New-York, asked leave of absence. Granted.

On motion of Brother Maxwell, Report of Committee on Constitution was made special order for this afternoon and evening.

On motion of Brother Chase, the rules were suspended, and it was resolved, that when we adjourn this afternoon, it will be till half-past nine A.M. to-morrow.

Brother Aiken presented a memorial to the Patrons of the Cotton States, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

On motion of Brother Smedley, the special order was taken up, and, pending the discussion, on motion, the Grange adjourned.

SEVENTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, February 11.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair.
The minutes of the previous day were read and approved.
The Committee on Resolutions presented their report as follows :

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

PREAMBLE.

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry :

GENERAL OBJECTS.

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country, and mankind.

2. We heartily indorse the motto : "In essentials, unity ; in non-essentials, liberty ; in all things, charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS.

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects :

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To

foster mutual understanding and coöperation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good-will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social, and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS.

4. For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually ad-

vantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action that "Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall, therefore, advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way, of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to "open out the channels in nature's great arteries that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble Order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection and the protection of every true interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits.

EDUCATION.

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN.

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange, National, State, or Subordinate, is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious ques-

tions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and, if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We must always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption, and trickery ; to see that none but competent, faithful, and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust ; and to have carried out the principle which should always characterize every Patron, that

THE OFFICE SHOULD SEEK THE MAN, AND NOT THE MAN THE OFFICE.

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while "the fault lies in bitterness of controversy."

We desire a proper equality, equity, and fairness ; protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong ; in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

OUTSIDE COÖPERATION.

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we can not admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial coöperation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest coöperation, as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION.

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity, and political purity of our forefathers.

The report of the committee was adopted and ordered printed.

Brother Aiken moved, that the memorial of the Cotton States' representatives receive the sanction of this Grange and be printed.

Adopted.

MEMORIAL TO THE COTTON STATES.

The undersigned, representatives of the Cotton States in the National Grange, beg leave to present to the Patrons of Husbandry in the cotton-growing section of the Union, the following sugges-

tions, which they believe to be justified by the present condition of the South.

During the past seven years, our cotton fields have added to the wealth of the world (\$2,000,000,000) two thousand millions of dollars, and caused prosperity to smile upon every one who has handled our crops save those who struggled for its production. Annually the energies of the cotton planter have been exhausted in attempting to produce a maximum crop of a single staple, whilst quite as frequently he has reduced his means in supplying his necessary wants. A system based upon such a policy, and producing such results, must be radically wrong, and if persisted in, will lead to bankruptcy and ruin. We propose to inquire into the cause of this evil, and, if possible, present a method of removing it.

Has it been that the supply of cotton has exceeded the demand? Statistics do not prove this a fact. Is it that our labor has been unreliable and expensive? The same labor investment has nowhere yielded a greater market value of products. Has Providence inflicted upon us agricultural disasters? He has often interposed for our benefits. What then has averted our anticipated prosperity? Are we not responsible for our direful condition, in that we have neglected too much the growth of breadstuffs, and substituted therefor almost exclusively the cultivation of cotton? No people can

EVER BECOME PROSPEROUS

who are not self sustaining. Our fertile soil, exhaustless mineral wealth, abundant water power, and genial, salubrious climate avail us nothing if annually we expend millions for subsistence. It is generally conceded that home-grown bread is cheaper than purchased supplies; and the observation of every planter is, that those Southern farmers who live within themselves are more independent and less encumbered with debt than those who have relied solely upon the cotton crop. Were it otherwise, it is hazardous for any people to rely upon others for a supply of those articles which are necessary for their daily consumption.

The horrors of famine which have more than once cursed the people of India, in their efforts to grow cotton to the exclusion of breadstuffs, would have been repeated in our midst but that we

were able to supply our necessities from the teeming granaries of the North-west. We shrink from the contemplation of what would be our condition should disaster deprive us of that resource. During the past year, certain portions of Iowa, Minnesota, and Dakota have been invaded by the grasshopper, which has swept their fields like a fire, and destroyed every vestige of vegetation. Imagine your condition, should a similar invasion become general in the Northwest. Couple with this idea the total failure of a cotton crop either from the worms, from drought, or from any other unavoidable cause. Improbable as such visitations may appear, have we the power to prevent them; and is it wise to subject ourselves to the possibility of becoming the victims of such calamities? Depend upon it, our wisest and safest policy is, as far as practicable, to produce at home our necessary supplies. Is there a farm in the South upon which this can not be done, and at the same time produce an average cotton crop as the *net* result of the farmers' annual labors? We believe there is not; and you have only to practice this policy for the year 1874, and the harvest-time will proclaim redemption to the South, and a return to its wonted prosperity.

As our Constitution expresses it "the

PROSPERITY OF A NATION.

is in proportion to the value of its productions." Then how magnificently prosperous should be the Cotton States of this Union! Annually four millions (4,000,000) of bales of cotton are produced upon Southern soil. But what proportion of this vast amount is retained to indicate our prosperity? One half of it is expended for necessary supplies, whilst the remainder is divided between labor and taxes. Hence the cost of production has succeeded the value of the article produced. Shall this policy continue? Extensive cotton crops have evinced our unity of purpose, and entailed poverty upon us. An equal uniform adhesion to mixed husbandry would secure our recuperation.

Patrons of the South, do you appreciate your privileges? Reflect upon your opportunity to exact tribute of the world. Cotton is a necessity, and the extent of that necessity can be calculated with exactness. It is equally well known what proportion of that necessity must be supplied by the Cotton States of America. If

three million five hundred thousand bales (3,500,000) are grown, they will be consumed before another crop can be gathered, and a remunerative market price will be sustained by the consequent demand. If four millions five hundred thousand (4,500,000) bales are grown the large marginal excess will control and depress the market. Is it not within the power of our organization to control this feature of our condition? Alternatives for success are numerous, but we need rely upon the single one of coöperating in the determination to subsist at home. With this end attained, there is no reason why we should not be the happiest, most independent and prosperous people on earth.

D. WYATT AIKEN, S. C., Member Ex.-Com. Nat. Grange.

W. H. CHAMBERS, Master State Grange, Ala.

A. J. VAUGHAN, Master Mississippi State Grange.

BEN. F. WARDLAW, Master State Grange, Fla.

JOHN T. JONES, Master State Grange, Ark.

H. W. L. LEWIS, Master State Grange, La.

G. J. SMITH, Master State Grange, Ga.

W. MAXWELL, Master State Grange, Tenn.

COLUMBUS MILLS, Master State Grange, N. C.

Brother Smith, Georgia, from the Committee on Finance, submitted a report, which after amendment was adopted as follows :

SECTION 1. That the compensation to the Worthy Master for his services for 1873 be fixed at \$1500 and traveling expenses.

SEC. 2. That the Worthy Chaplain be paid \$500 for services rendered our Order since its organization.

SEC 3. That the account of J. H. Osborne, for printing, amounting to \$22, is a legitimate one, and should be paid.

SEC. 4. That the Executive Committee each receive \$500 and traveling expenses, for services rendered during 1873.

Adopted.

SEC. 5. That the A. S., L. A. S., and G. K., each receive \$50 for services at this session.

SEC. 6. That the Lecturer be sent by the Executive Committee only to those States where his services may be asked for, and that he receive a per diem of \$5 and traveling expenses, while so engaged.

SEC. 7. That the Treasurer receive as his salary for 1874, \$1000, and he be required to give a bond of \$20,000.

Adopted.

SEC. 8. That the Secretary receive as his salary for 1874, \$2500.

Report of Committee on Constitution and By-laws was taken up and proceeded with, pending which, on motion of Brother Chambers, it was made special order for half-past three P.M.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Grange opened in due form.

Brother Smith, Georgia, moved a committee of three be appointed on unfinished business.

Adopted.

The Worthy Master appointed the following brothers : Smith, Georgia ; Colton, Vermont ; Clark, Oregon.

Brother Hamilton, California, moved that elections of a member of the Executive Committee, and of " Pomona," be made the special order of ten A.M. to morrow.

Adopted.

Special order was called for, and taken up, and after discussion, Brother Chambers moved it be made the special order for half past seven P.M.

Adopted.

Brother Grosh asked for leave of absence. Granted.

EVENING SESSION.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

Brother Shankland submitted the report of the Committee on Per-diem and Mileage, stating the miles traveled, and the days' services of each member.

Brother Moore, Maryland, moved it be adopted, and placed in the hands of the Treasurer for payment.

Adopted.

Brother Mills, from the Committee on Claims, submitted a report on claim of J. C. Abbott, recommending said claim be referred to Executive Committee.

Adopted.

Special order was taken up (report of Committee on Constitution and By-laws), and made special order for ten A.M., Thursday.

Ajdourned.

EIGHTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, February 13.

Grange opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Special order being called for, Brother Hamilton moved the grange proceed to the election of a member of the Executive Committee, to succeed Brother Shankland, whose term had expired.

Carried.

An election was held, and Brother Shankland, having received a majority of all votes cast, was declared duly elected.

Grange then proceeded to the election of Pomona, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sister Kelley.

On the first ballot there was no choice.

On the second ballot, Sister Taylor, of South-Carolina, was duly elected, and on motion of Sister Smedley, the vote was declared unanimous.

The office of Flora having been declared vacant, the grange then proceeded to an election.

Sister Moore, of Maryland, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared duly elected, and the vote was, on motion, made unanimous.

Special order was then called up—the report of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws—pending the discussion of which, Brother Wardlaw, Florida, offered the following:

Resolved, That all members of this body be requested to forward their reasons for the permanent location of the office of the National Grange to the committee having that matter in charge.

Adopted.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Grange opened in due form. Brother Wardlaw, Florida, moved the installation of newly elected officers be made the special order for eight o'clock P.M.

Brother Porter, Nebraska, submitted a resolution ; referred to the Committee on Location of Office of National Grange.

Special order was then taken up—the report of Committee on Constitution and By-laws—and after various amendments was adopted as follows :

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

No. 1. That the preamble to the Constitution be amended, by striking out the paragraph under the heading “organization,” in relation to State granges, and substituting the following :

STATE GRANGE.

Fifth degree. Pomona—(Faith). Composed of the Masters of subordinate granges and their wives who are Matrons, provided that when the number of subordinate granges in any State becomes so great as to render it necessary, the State grange may, in such manner as it may determine, reduce its representatives, by providing for the election of a certain proportion of those entitled to membership in the State grange from each county ; and the members so chosen shall constitute the State grange.

No. 2, SEC. 2. There may be established District or County granges in the fifth degree, not to exceed one in each county, composed of Masters and Past-Masters of Subordinate granges, and their wives, who are Matrons, and such fourth degree members (not to exceed three from each subordinate grange) as may be elected thereto by the subordinate granges, under such regulations as may be established by State granges. Such District or County granges shall have charge of the educational and business interests of the Order in their respective districts ; and shall encourage, strengthen, and aid the subordinate granges represented therein. Dispensations for such District or County granges shall issue from the State grange, and under such regulations as the State grange may adopt.

No. 3. That the preamble of the constitution be amended under the heading "organization," in relation to the National Grange, so as to read :

"Sixth degree." Flora—(Hope). Composed—

1. Of the founders of the Order, viz., William Saunders, O. H. Kelley, J. R. Thompson, A. B. Grosh, W. M. Ireland, John Trimble, Jr., F. M. McDowell.

2. The Past-Masters of the National Grange and their wives, who have taken the degree of Flora.

3. The officers and members of the Executive Committee of the National Grange.

4. Masters of State granges and their wives, who have taken the fifth degree.

5. One additional representative from each State for each fifty thousand members, or fractional part thereof, in excess of thirty thousand, said representatives to be alternately a brother and sister for every alternate fifty thousand; must be fifth degree members, and will be entitled to the sixth degree.

No. 4. That section 2, article 1 of the constitution be amended by inserting after the word "annually," where it occurs in the second line of said section, the following: "at the regular meeting in December, and installed at the regular meeting in January, or as soon thereafter as practicable."

No. 5. That article 1, section 4 of the constitution be amended by striking out the word "three" where it occurs in the second line of said section, and inserting the word "five," and also by striking out the words "one of whom shall be elected each year."

No. 6. That article 2, section 1 of the constitution be amended, by inserting the words "at least" between the words "meet" and "once" where those words occur in the first line of said section.

No. 7. That article 2, section 3 of the constitution be amended, by striking out the word "February" where it occurs in the second line of said section, and substitute therefor the word "November," and also by striking out the word "first" where it occurs in the same line, and substitute therefor the word "third."

No. 8. That article 3 of the constitution be amended, by strik-

ing out the word "shall" where it occurs in the first line of *said* article, and substituting therefor the word "may."

No. 9. That article 5 of the constitution be amended so as to read: "Engaged in agricultural pursuits, and having no interest in conflict with our purposes," instead of "interested in agricultural pursuits."

No. 10. That article 5 of the constitution be amended by striking out the words "female" and "eighteen years male," where they occur in the second and third lines of *said* article.

No. 11. That article 6 of the constitution be amended so as to read as follows:

The minimum fee for membership in a subordinate grange shall be, for men five dollars, and for women two dollars, for the four degrees.

No. 12. That article 7 of the constitution be amended as follows:

Strike out the words "or passed to higher degrees" where they occur in the close of section 2, and add the following to *said* section:

"During the quarter, and pay to the secretary of the State grange one dollar for each man, and fifty cents for each woman, initiated during the quarter; also, a quarterly due of six cents for each member; said report to be approved and forwarded at the first session of the grange in each quarter." Strike out the whole of section 3 and of section 4. and substitute therefor the following, to wit: "The secretary of the State grange shall pay to the treasurer of the State grange all moneys coming into his hands, at least once every ten days, taking his receipt therefor; and shall report quarterly to the secretary of the National Grange the membership in the State."

Change the numbers of succeeding sections so as to make them conform to these changes.

No. 13. That article 7, section 5 of the constitution be amended by striking out the words "in New-York" where they occur in *said* section, and leaving the name of the place blank.

No. 14. That article 7, section 5 of the constitution be amended by striking out the word "ten" where it occurs in the last line on page 8, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "five."

No. 15. That article 7, section 6 of the constitution be amended

by striking out the word "signed" where it occurs in the third line of said section, and substitute therefor the word "approved."

No. 16. That the whole of article 8 be transferred from the constitution to the by-laws, and incorporated therein.

No. 17. That article 9, section 3 be amended as follows : Insert the words "or charters" between the words "dispensation" and "shall be" where those words occur in the first part of section 3 of said article.

No. 18. That section 4, article 9 of the constitution be amended by striking out the word "ten" where it occurs in the fifth line of said section, and inserting the word "twenty."

No. 19. Strike out sections 6, 7, and 9 of said article 9, and substitute in lieu of said sections the following section :

"Where State granges are organized, dispensations for the organization of the subordinate granges, heretofore issued, shall be replaced by charter from the National Grange without further fee ; and, thereafter, all applications for charters for subordinate granges shall pass through the office of the Master of the State grange, and must be approved by him before they are issued by the National Grange. When so issued, the charter shall pass through the office of the secretary of the State grange, and receive the signature and official seal of that office."

No. 20. That section 8, article 9 of the constitution be amended by striking out the words ("either first, second, third, or fourth,") where they occur in said section, and inserting the words "on the same person."

No. 21. That the following be inserted and numbered :

ARTICLE XIII.

The Master of the National Grange and the members of the Executive Committee shall be empowered to suspend from office any officer of the National Grange who may prove inefficient or derelict in the discharge of his duty, subject to appeal to the next session thereafter of the National Grange.

ARTICLE XIV.—AMENDMENTS.

This constitution can be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the National Grange, at any annual meeting, and when

such alteration or amendment shall have been ratified by three fourths of the State granges, and the same reported to the secretary of the National Grange, it shall be of full force.

Brother Parsons of Minnesota offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the amendments to the constitution of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, adopted at this session of the National Grange, be immediately certified by the Secretary and Master, under the seal of the National Grange, to the secretaries of the several State granges for ratification. Said certificate shall set forth the fact that said amendments were adopted at the seventh annual session of the National Grange, by a two-thirds vote thereof.

The secretaries of the several State granges be directed to lay the said amendments before the said State granges, at their next meeting, for ratification. That said amendments be submitted to State granges, as follows : The secretary shall prepare written or printed copies of the same, at least two for each State grange, numbering said amendments and with sufficient margin, so that the words "ratified" or "rejected" may be plainly written thereon against each amendment.

That said amendments be voted on separately by said State grange. Against each amendment ratified there shall be plainly written on the margin the word "ratified," and against each amendment not ratified shall be plainly written on the margin the word "rejected." Said copies shall then be certified under seal by the secretary of the State grange, as the copies submitted to the State grange. One copy shall be filed in the office of the secretary of the State grange, and the other reported to the secretary of the National Grange, to be filed by him in his office.

In case three fourths of the State granges shall approve any of said amendments, the secretary of the National Grange shall then compile the constitution, embodying such amendments as shall have been adopted, subject to the revision of the Executive Committee, and cause to be printed such number of copies thereof as the Executive Committee shall determine.

Brother Chase of New-Hampshire offered the following, which was adopted :

The secretary of the National Grange shall also send one copy of the proposed amendments to each member of the National Grange as soon as may be practicable.

On motion of Brother Parsons, a vote of thanks was returned to the members of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws for their able and faithful performance of duty.

Adopted.

Brother Chambers, of Alabama, offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That in the sense of the National Grange, the expression, "Interested in agricultural pursuits," in article 5 of the constitution, means, "Engaged in agricultural pursuits, and having no interest in conflict with our purposes."

On motion, the report of Boston Grange Committee was made special order for 8:45 o'clock P.M.

Ellis, Ohio, offered the following resolution ;

Resolved, That this National Grange recognize the right of State granges to have the legislative department of their body vested in representatives elected by the masters of granges in the various counties :

Adopted.

Brother Allen presented a resolution:

Resolved, That in the event the per-diem and mileage allowed to members proves insufficient to defray their actual expenses in attending this annual meeting of the National Grange, any such special case being satisfactorily presented to the Executive Committee, or to this body while in session, such deficit shall be paid by the treasurer.

Adopted.

Brother Smedley moved that the National Grange shall meet at its evening session in the sixth degree.

Adopted.

Brother Wardlaw moved that the Committee on Resolutions be discharged.

So ordered.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Brother White, chairman of Committee on Good of the Order, asked that committee to be discharged.

So ordered.

Brothers Brown, Michigan; Manger, Pennsylvania; Ellis, Ohio, asked to be excused.

So ordered.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The grange was opened in due form, Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

On motion, the special order was taken up; and the newly elected officers, Sister Taylor of South-Carolina as "Pomona," and Sister Moore, of Maryland, as Flora, were installed by Worthy Master Adams, assisted by brother Wardlaw of Florida.

On motion, the second special order was taken up, and the Committee on the Boston Grange submitted the following report:

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of Worthy Master Adams' address, having reference to Boston Grange, beg leave to submit the following report:

In order to arrive at a correct conclusion as to alleged irregularities, we proceeded to ascertain, from the means at our command, testimony in regard to the following questions:

1. Had any irregularities been committed? If so, what were they?
2. By whom had these irregularities been committed?
3. What remedy shall we propose?

We find, from the evidence submitted to us, that some time in June, 1873, Worthy Master Adams gave Brother Abbott, of Iowa, a commission as a national deputy, with instructions to organize subordinate granges in Massachusetts. This commission was accompanied by the usual instructions in printed form, a copy of which has been submitted to us, and we find that deputies are strictly enjoined by them "to admit none into the organization of a subordinate grange but those who were actually farmers of good character." Some time in August, 1873, Brother Abbott did organize a grange in Boston called "The Boston Grange," the members of which, so far as we can learn, were not of the class required by the instructions of Brother Abbott. After a careful examination of testimony, the only occupations we could fix for the members of this grange were grain dealers, commis-

sion men, a reporter and editor of business paper, with one single exception, the present lecturer of Boston Grange, who stated to us that he is carrying on a farm near Boston, but his principal income was derived from the business he carried on in the city. And the committee here take occasion to say, that we

HAVE FOUND IT VERY DIFFICULT

to obtain positive information as to who were in reality the first members of this organization or their occupations. And this, too, notwithstanding we have had Worthy Master Adams, Worthy Secretary Kelley, Lecturer Thompson, Worthy Master Allis, of Boston State Grange, and Brother Staples, present lecturer of the Boston Grange, before us. We find that on or about September 8th, 1873, Worthy Master Adams went to Boston in consequence of reports which had reached him in regard to this grange, to examine as to their truth, and was so well satisfied that the material of which it was composed was neither such as was contemplated by our Order, nor the instructions given to the deputy, that after his return to Washington, and in accordance with the views of two members of the Executive Committee (the third being confined to his bed by sickness), he issued a revocation of the dispensation which had been granted this grange to organize, and sent it to Brother Abbott with instructions to present it to the Boston Grange, demand its dispensation, rituals, etc., and forward them to the secretary of the National Grange at Washington.

THIS REVOCATION

was signed by Worthy Master Adams, Worthy Secretary O. H. Kelley, and had the seal of the National Grange attached to it. Worthy Master Adams shortly afterward recalled the commission which Brother Abbott held as general deputy to organize subordinate granges, the revocation to take effect on and after December 1st, 1873. Brother Abbott subsequently acknowledged the receipt of this letter, and the Worthy Overseer of Boston Grange wrote to Worthy Master Adams a remonstrance against the demand for the dispensation, books, etc.

We can not find that any official notice was taken by the grange of this demand. They, however, for a time suspended their work.

Some time in December, the Boston Grange elected new officers, and in January, 1874, the Worthy Master of Massachusetts State Grange sent one of his deputies to install the officers then elected, and to give the master thereof the annual word for 1874. Worthy Master Adams had written to Worthy Master Allis in regard to

WITHOLDING THIS WORD,

and it is due to Brother Allis to state, that he says he did not receive Worthy Master Adams's letter on the subject until after this work had been done. We find that the Massachusetts State Grange encouraged and sustained, by a resolution passed at a regular meeting, the Boston Grange in its acts of insubordination and resistance to lawful authority, and therefore have rendered themselves liable to censure by a violation of their obligation to "inculcate strict obedience to lawful edicts and proper authority." We find that the action of the Boston Grange, in refusing to surrender its dispensation and submit quietly to the rulings of our head until this meeting of the National Grange, when they could have applied for redress, by appeal from the action of Worthy Master Adams, has been very demoralizing and injurious to the interests of our Order throughout the entire West and South, and the good of the Order imperatively requires that such insubordination and persistent

RESISTANCE TO AUTHORITY MUST BE CHECKED.

Impressed as we are with the necessity that exists for us as an Order to adhere to and teach a strict observance of the obligation which requires us to obey all lawful edicts emanating from proper authority, and without calling into question at all the integrity, moral worth, or friendly feelings which the persons who formed the Boston Grange may have for the principles or success and prosperity of our Order, we find that this grange was not and is not now composed of the material declared by our Order to be eligible to membership. We find they have been derelict in not obeying the requirements of our Worthy Master, when he demanded a surrender of the dispensation under which they were working; that they are still acting in defiance of the authority which commanded them to stop, and by such insubordination they have for-

feited all right to be considered Patrons of Husbandry in good and regular standing. We therefore recommend, that the secretary of the National Grange be hereby instructed to notify all the State granges within our jurisdiction that the Boston Grange is no longer connected with the Patrons of Husbandry, and henceforth no fraternal recognition can be extended to it by any grange, State or subordinate; and the Master of the Massachusetts State Grange is hereby required to make a formal demand for the surrender of the dispensation and rituals of the Boston Grange, and when received return to said grange the money paid for said dispensation and rituals, and return them without delay to the office of the secretary of the National Grange at Washington.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. HAMILTON, California.

A. GOLDBER, Illinois.

W. D. DAVIE, Kentucky.

C. MILLS, North-Carolina.

H. W. L. LEWIS, Louisiana.

Brother Chase, from the Auditing Committee, reported, recommending the reference of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports to the Executive Committee.

Brother Mills, North-Carolina, from Committee on Claims, submitted claim of J. L. Brown, Deputy for Colorado, and recommended it be paid.

Adopted.

Also submitted claim of E. J. Ohr, Deputy for Maryland, and recommended it be paid.

Adopted.

Brother Chambers moved that, for the future, the Executive Committee be authorized to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary before the meeting of the National Grange, and be required to report to the National Grange.

Adopted.

Brother Davie presented report on claims of Kansas deputy.

Brother Smedley moved to refer to Examining Committee,

Adopted.

Adjourned.

NINTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, February 18.

Grange opened in due form.

Brother Clark moved the following :

Resolved, That the practice of selling rituals of our Order to any person who may apply for the same is dangerous to our best interests, and should be prohibited.

Adopted.

Brother Aiken reported from Executive Committee, on "Jurisdiction," "Demits," and "Status of Patrons whose granges are defunct," which was referred back, with power to act.

Brother Smedley moved, That each State grange be authorized to fix the relative distances of subordinate organizations from each other.

Adopted.

Brother Maxwell moved that, in addition to Brother Aikens' resolution, we adopt the following :

Resolved, That all matters of local jurisdiction and local jurisdiction in States about which members or subordinate granges desire information, be by them referred to masters of their States, or to their Executive Committees, when their State granges are not in session, for decision or adjustment, subject to an appeal to higher authority.

Adopted.

Brother Hamilton :

Resolved, That, for the present, Nevada be attached to the juris-

diction of California, for the purpose of organization of subordinate granges therein, so as to avoid the appointment of a National Deputy.

Adopted.

Brother Chase :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to provide and furnish all needed material, gavel, seals, etc., for State and subordinate granges, at such prices and under such rules as the Executive Committee may direct.

Adopted.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Grange opened in due form. Worthy Master Adams in the chair.

Brother Wardlaw presented the following :

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are eminently due, and hereby tendered to the Master, Overseer, and the other officers, for the patient and faithful performance of their various duties during this the seventh annual session of the National Grange.

Adopted.

Brother Smedley, from the Committee on Transportation, reported as follows :

The Committee on Transportation and Coöperation would respectfully report as follows :

The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, representing the productive industry of the country, finds the means of transportation inadequate to carry on its exchanges, while at the same time the cost of transportation, chiefly on account of the inadequacy of the means, is so excessive as to be onerous. The committee would therefore respectfully suggest the following resolutions :

First : That the Mississippi River be made navigable, with a permanent outlet to the gulf, and its channel be so improved as to afford a means of transportation for the exchanges of those States lying upon its borders, commensurate with their demands.

Second : That Congress, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, so regulate the internal commerce between the States as to make the tax upon internal transportation approxi-

mate more justly the actual cost, while at the same time in no way threatening or injuring the legitimate claims of invested capital, to secure such a proportionate share of the wealth produced by industry as it is justly entitled to for its services. *pro.*

Third: That the proper legislative measures be instituted to restore our foreign commerce to its former condition of efficiency, so that the charge of freight may no longer be a direct tax against our productive industry, but, as it used to be, an increase of our domestic resources.

Fourth: That printed copies of these resolutions be furnished the masters of State granges, and they be instructed to forward them to the members of Congress from their respective States.

Fifth: While the above resolutions suggest the aid of the State in attaining our ends, yet your committee would take this occasion to impress upon the members of the Order, that taking the matter in their own hands and organizing effective coöperation between themselves as producers and the transportation companies as legitimately engaged in a necessary function of the business of exchange, is one of the most practical means for producing immediate results.

Your committee were also enjoined to take into consideration the subject of business coöperation. Under this head, we feel the imperative necessity of some definite action, to the end that there may be an exchange of products between producers in the different sections of country. The cotton and sugar-growing States, the manufacturing and mining districts of the Eastern and Middle States and the bread and meat-producing States of the West, are all united by a common bond of interest, an interest which the Order of Patrons will bring together and utilize.

It should be our purpose to arrange a business system by which an exchange of products may be made direct between the producer and consumer without the intervention of an unnecessary number of middle men. It is of but little satisfaction to our brothers of the South to know that corn in Iowa is selling at thirty cents per bushel while they pay eighty, or that meat in Illinois is four cents per pound, while it costs them eight. It is a questionable consolation to the manufacturer of New-England to know that in the valley of the Mississippi a yard of his cloth will buy

three loaves of bread, when but one of them ever reaches his family.

Your committee recognize fully that these differences are not caused by a fair and equitable system of transportation or business needs, but by an unhealthy system of watered stock and an unnecessary number of middle men, which together eat up too large a share of the products of labor. In view of these facts, we respectfully submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the National Grange be instructed to give especial attention to furnishing Patrons with tools and implements for the cultivation of our farms, and all family and farm supplies, at as low a price as a legitimate business profit will permit, and also to make arrangements by which a mutual exchange of products between different sections of the country may be made ; and they are hereby authorized to employ, if in their judgment it may be necessary, competent agents to aid them in the work.

That they be also instructed to devise some safe plan for co-operative stores, for the information of members of the Order, and transmit the same to the Executive Committees of the several State granges.

A. B. SMEDLEY,
B. F. WARDLAW,
W. MAXWELL,
EDWARD HOWLAND.

Adopted.

Brother Smedley moved as follows :

Resolved : That the Executive Committee are hereby instructed to settle the accruing bills of this session not otherwise provided for.

Adopted.

Brother Moore moved, at the request of the Committee on Order of Business, that the following Standing Committees be ordered for each and every session of the National Grange.

Finance.

Resolutions.

Order of Business.

Constitution and By-laws.

Transportation and Coöperation.

Good of the Order.

Master's Message and Lecturer's Report.

Claims and Grievances.

Accounts.

Mileage.

Commercial Relations.

Brother and Sister Howland submitted a resolution on *national* currency, which, on motion of Brother Smedley, was referred to the Executive Committee.

Brother Allen moved : That the thanks of this National Grange are due, and are hereby tendered to the proprietors of the Southern Hotel for their courtesy extended to the members of this grange.

Adopted.

Brother Davie moved : That we close this session of the National Grange.

Adopted.

The Grange closed in due form.